GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4415
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
TAPPING OF TELEPHONES
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing incidents of tapping of telephones in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the states from where such incidents have been reported during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop such illegal incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (d): Monitoring of telephones is authorised under the provisions of Section 5 (2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 which prescribe stringent procedure to be followed in such cases. Authorisation orders for interception of telephones are issued by the State Home Secretaries in respect of State Governments and Union Home Secretary in respect of the Central Government. Information regarding details of telephones monitored by the State Governments is not maintained by the Government of India. Ministry of Communications merely provides technical assistance in respect of orders issued as above.